



**University
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

PROGRAMME

The Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(School of Child and Youth Care)

Barbara D. Hodgins

2007
1994

University of Victoria
University of British Columbia

MEd
BA

“(Re)Storying Dolls and Cars:
Gender and Care with Young Children”

Friday, September 19, 2014
1:00 P.M.

Human and Social Development Building, Room A373

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Jessica Ball, School of Child & Youth Care, UVic (Supervisor)

Dr. Veronica Pacini-Ketchabaw, School of Child & Youth Care,
UVic (Member)

Dr. Peter Stephenson, Department of Anthropology, UVic
(Outside Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Mindy Blaise, College of Education, Victoria University

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Wanda Hurren, Department of Curriculum and Instruction,
UVic

Abstract

Feminist theorising has been instrumental in efforts to challenge gender hierarchies and conceptualize care as an ethic of relationality and interdependence, and has influenced visions of pedagogy as a relational, ethical and political endeavour. While these pedagogies importantly challenge simplified, uncontextualized, apolitical notions of both gender and care, they do not necessarily attend to the increasing complexity of children's heterogeneous commonworlds. Following a theoretical and methodological framework aligned with material feminism and post-qualitative research, in particular thinking with feminist scholars Barad and Haraway, this research questions what an engagement with human-and non-human relationality might do to complicate conversations about gender and care. Employing pedagogical narrations through a post-qualitative lens, this inquiry explores how children, educators and things become implicated in gendered caring practices. A diffractive analysis is put to work wherein gender and care are analyzed with/in several child-doll and child-car encounters, and are diffractively read through other doll and car stories near and far from the classroom. This analysis illuminates the political and ethical embeddedness of early childhood pedagogies, and the understanding that gendering and caring emerge with/in a complex web of many relations. Material feminism loosens ties that bind simplified constructions of gender as explanations for care and vice versa, and instead puts forward that gender and care performatively emerge through intra-action. As such pedagogical and research practices need to pay careful attention to that which is always already on the verge of becoming.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

- 2009-2010 HELP-UVic: REACH Scholarship, University of Victoria
- 2009 HELP-UVic: REACH Recognition for Exemplary Graduate Research Award, University of Victoria
- 2008-2009 HELP-UVic: REACH Thesis Funding, University of Victoria
- 2008 HELP-UVic: REACH Recognition for Exemplary Graduate Research Award, University of Victoria
- 2008-2009 Agnes Shahariw Memorial Scholarship, University of Victoria

Presentations

1. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. *A Methodology for/of Disruption in Child and Youth Care Practices* Child and Youth Care in Action III Conference, Victoria, B.C. May 2014

2. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. *Pedagogical Narrations: A Pedagogical Practice, A Research Methodology* Early Childhood Educators of BC: Annual Meeting, Richmond, B.C. May 2014
3. Hodgins, B.D., Foreland, D. *Caring Complexities: Thinking Gender-Care With and Through Pedagogical Narrations*, 3rd National Early Learning Lab School Conference: Leading the Way, North Vancouver, B.C. March 2014
4. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Rose, S. and Thompson, D. *Pedagogical Narrations as a Methodology for Qualitative Educational Research*, American Educational Research Association Annual General Meeting, San Francisco, CA. April 2013
5. Hodgins, B.D., Pacini-Ketchabaw, V., Kummen, K. and Thompson, D. *Entanglements and Complexities of Pedagogical Documentation*. Embracing Complexity in the Daily Life of the School: The Learning Process Through Observation, Interpretation and Documentation, New Westminster, B.C. October 2012
6. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. *Critically Exploring Pedagogical Narrations in Early Years Research and Practice*, International Innovations in ECE: A Canadian Forum on Early Childhood Frameworks, Victoria, B.C. July 2012
7. Hodgins, B.D., Pacini-Ketchabaw, V., Kummen, K. and Thompson, D. *Dethroning the Single Voice: Pedagogical Narrations in Early Years Research and Practice*, 2nd National Early Learning Lab School Conference: Leading the Way, Toronto, ON. March 2012
8. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K. *Pedagogical Narrations: Opportunities for Practice in the Post Secondary Classroom*, Transforming Our Childhood Programs, Vancouver, B.C. February 2012
9. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. *Dethroning the Single Voice: Pedagogical Narrations in Early Years Research and Practice*, Reconceptualizing Early Childhood Education Conference, London, England. October 2011
10. Hodgins, B.D. *Pedagogical Narrations' Potentiality as a Methodology for Research with Children*, Qualitative Analysis Conference, Brantford, ON. May 2011
11. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. *Dethroning the Single Voice: Pedagogical Narrations in Early Years Research and Practice*, Child and Youth Care in Action III Conference, Victoria, B.C. April 2011
12. Hodgins, B.D., Pence, A., White, J., Morris, J., Kummen, K., and Newbury, J., *Critical Perspectives in Child and Youth Care: A Book Project*, Child and Youth Care in Action III Conference, Victoria, B.C. April 2011.

13. Hodgins, B.D. *Moving Beyond "Don't Paint the Walls Pink"*, Making Tomorrow Conference, Victoria, B.C. May 2010
14. Hodgins, B.D. *Father Involvement in Parenting: Exploring Young Children's Perspectives*, REACH Graduate Symposium, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. November 2009
15. Hodgins, B.D. *Father Involvement in Parenting Young Children*, REACH Graduate Symposium, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. November 2008
16. Hodgins, B.D. *Father Involvement Content in Parent Education Programs* Focus on Fathering Event, Victoria, B.C. November 2008
17. Hodgins, B.D. *Supporting Young Indigenous Fathers*, National Father Involvement Research Alliance Conference, Toronto, ON. October 23, 2008
18. Hodgins, B.D. *Father Involvement Content in Parent Education Programs* National Father Involvement Research Alliance Conference, Toronto, ON October 22, 2008

Publications

1. Hodgins, B.D. "Tangled tales of car(e)s." *Critical perspectives on working with young people*. H. Scott-Myer, V. Pacini-Ketchabaw, & K. Scott-Myer (Eds.) Palgrave. (forthcoming)
2. Hodgins, B.D. "Playing with dolls: (Re)storying gendered caring pedagogies." *International Journal of Child Youth and Family Studies*. (forthcoming)
3. Hodgins, B. D., Kummen, K., Pacini-Ketchabaw, V., & Thompson, D. "Entangling and reconceptualizing research/practice binaries in laboratory schools in British Columbia." *Leading the way: Recognizing the role of early learning lab schools in Canadian universities and colleges*. R. Langford & A. Di Santo (Eds.), (pp. 42-48). **2013**.
4. Hodgins, B.D. "Pedagogical narrations' potentiality as a methodology for child studies research." *Canadian Children*, 37 (1), 4-11. **2012**.
5. Hodgins, B.D. [Review of the book *Meeting the child in Steiner kindergartens: An exploration of beliefs, values and practices*, Rod Parker-Rees, New York, Routledge (2011). 137 pp.]. *International Journal of Spirituality*, 17 (1), 89-91. **2012**.
6. Hodgins, B.D. "Father involvement initiatives: Social inclusion or the (re)construction of hegemonic masculinity." *Critical Perspectives in Child and Youth care: Working the Borders of Pedagogy, Practice and Policy* (pp. 95-117). Vancouver, Canada: UBC Press. **2011**.